

ARTIFICIAL TUBULAR BODY ORGAN GRAFTS

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Abstract

Artificial tubular grafts have a tubular framework of a first highly elastic material (e.g., a mesh of nitinol) covered by a substantially continuous web of a second highly elastic material (e.g., silicone). Prior to application of the second material, the framework is handled so that it will permit the finished and installed graft to readily respond to natural pressure pulses in blood flowing through the graft by elastically circumferentially expanding. The resulting pulsation of the graft is a strong deterrent to the formation of undesirable blood clots on the inner wall surface of the graft.

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